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Pizarro: Joan Baez to headline benefit concert in San Jose for Downtown Streets Team

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The San Jose Civic's going to be bursting with folk music and activism when icon Joan Baez plays an acoustic concert with Jackson Browne and Emmylou Harris on July 27 to benefit Downtown Streets Team.

If you're not familiar with the nonprofit, it started in 2006 in Palo Alto, growing out of a collaboration among the city's downtown association, law enforcement and businesses to address homelessness. It's "work-first" approach has since expanded to San Jose and Sunnyvale.

Executive Director Eileen Richardson marvels at the nonprofit's growth from a staff of one with four team members and a \$50,000 budget to 17 employees and more than 100 team members, who receive a basic stipend for volunteering their time in neighborhoods and attending weekly meetings.

Next month's concert is by far Downtown Streets Team's biggest event. With that lineup, ticket sales are expected to be brisk, and VIP ticketholders and sponsors are invited to a post-show reception featuring the three stars. For more information on the group or the concert, go to www.streetsteam.org.

SOUNDS OF PALO ALTO: The streets of downtown Palo Alto will be filled with tunes Sunday as World Music Day returns for its fifth year.

There will be about four dozen musical groups -- covering just about every genre you can think of -- performing on sidewalks and street corners along

University Avenue and on King Plaza from 3 to 7:30 p.m.

About 20,000 people attended last year's event, and there will be street closures again on University and Hamilton avenues. All the information you need is at www.pamusicday.org.

SATURDAY BENEFIT: Winemakers and Santa Cruz Mountain residents are rallying around Katy Lovell of Poetic Cellars, who is fighting late-stage pancreatic cancer. The benefit with food, wine and live music will take place from noon to 5 p.m. Saturday at Poetic Cellars, 5000 N. Rodeo Gulch Drive, Soquel.

For more information, go to www.poeticcellars.com.

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